

REMARKS

Claims 3-5, 8-10, 12-19 and 22-38 are pending in the application. Claims 13, 15-17, 27 and 37 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 13, 14, 27, 28, 37 and 38. In order to expedite prosecution, claims 13, 27 and 37 have been amended to incorporate all features of their respective base claims. Claims 14, 28 and 38 depend from claims 13, 27 and 37, respectively. Claims 13, 14, 27, 28, 37 and 38 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants further request that any outstanding §112 rejections related to claims 13, 14, 27, 28, 37 and 38 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Prior Art Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 3-5, 8-10, 12, 15-19, 22-26, and 29-36 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kashiwase *et al.* (JP 11278121) in view of Hirano (USP 6,460,642). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 15-17 are amended to recite "wherein the restricted portion of the high voltage wire is not positioned at the inverter." Neither Kashiwase *et al.* nor Hirano, either alone or in combination, disclose this feature. Paragraph 43 of the present application, referring to FIG. 4, describes the positioning of the restricted portion and the non-restricted portion of the high voltage wire relative to the inverter:

As shown in FIG. 4, the high voltage wires 25 and 32 within the tubes 28 and 33 can be divided into two sections, respectively; namely, a restricted portion 37 which is secured, by the clamps 34 to 36, to the securing unit such as the engine 11 and the intake pipe 19 so that the movement thereof is restricted, and a non-restricted portion 38 which is not secured to the securing unit so that the movement thereof is not restricted. Specifically, with regard to the high voltage wire 25 within the tube 28, generally, a section between the wire pull-out portion 27 and the clamp 36 corresponds to the restricted portion 37, and a section between the clamp 36 and the inverter 24 corresponds to the non restricted portion 38. Furthermore, with regard to the high voltage wire 32 within the tube 33, generally, a section between the wire pull-out

portion 31 and the clamp 36 corresponds to the restricted portion 37, and a section between the clamp 36 and the inverter 24 corresponds to the non-restricted portion 38.

This positioning of the restricted and non-restricted portions of the high voltage wire allows the non-restricted portion to absorb vibrations and movement in a manner as described in paragraphs 46-53, 63-64 and, in particular, 51.

In contrast to at least this aspect of the present invention, Hirano discloses the use of brackets and holders to secure cables to an inverter housing. As a result, the restricted portion of the cable is positioned at the inverter. Hirano does not disclose that the positioning of the restricted portion can be changed by moving the placement of the brackets and holders. Specifically, Hirano fails to teach or suggest "wherein the restricted portion of the high voltage wire is not positioned at the inverter" as recited in claims 15-17 because the high voltage wire of Hirano is secured to the securing unit at the inverter. The deficiencies of Hirano are not cured by Kashiwase *et al.* and the cited art fails to obtain the desired absorption effect described in paragraphs 46-53, 63-64 and 51 of the present application. Applicants therefore believe claims 15-17 are allowable and request that the rejection of claims 15-17 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 3-5, 8-10 and 12 depend from independent claim 15. Claims 18-19 and 22-26 depend from independent claim 16. Claims 29-36 depend from independent claim 17. These dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons applicable their respective base claims, as well as due to the features recited therein.


In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance.
Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any
information concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or
§ 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 12, 2007



Wesley W. Jones
Registration No. 56,552

KENYON & KENYON
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel.: (202) 220-4200
Fax.: (202) 220-4201
654943v2